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EDWARD LOTHROP RAND.[1]

B. L. Robinson.

(With portrait.)

A recreative interest in science brings its devotee into many new relations. It enriches life, diversifies activities, develops unsuspected faculties, and is apt greatly to extend personal acquaintance. The direction of such a hobby may be decided by some special opportunity, by environment, or even by accident; but its development will be individual and determined by personality. Some persons are attracted by concrete facts and become primarily observers. Others get pleasure in records and are moved to set down descriptive memoranda regarding objects and phenomena. On the other hand there are those who find facts interesting only as they can be correlated, interpreted, and made the basis of theory or generalization. Even more frequently the amateur possesses the instinct of acquisition, forms collections and tends to immerse himself in the preparation, mounting, labelling and classification of specimens. Some revel in field-work, exploration, and out-of-door observation. Others derive much of their pleasure from the literature of their chosen subject; they build up libraries bearing upon it, and become discriminating in the matter of editions and critical of publications. Finally, there is a far more human approach to science, namely the impulse which leads its possessor into cordial relations with his fellow workers and which stirs his interest in their traits as well as their activities. Those gifted with this type of interest have an important function. They are exceedingly helpful to science. It is they who form clubs

[1] A memorial address delivered before the New England Botanical Club Feb. 6, 1925.

and associations. It is they who correspond widely. It is they who are apt to be keen about the history of their subject and help much in its record and preservation. They cheer and encourage and through them much that would otherwise be dry routine and detail becomes humanly attractive because viewed as the work of human beings with individual characteristics and the peculiarities of distinct personality. Very notable in this valuable phase of scientific interest was our late secretary.

He was, it is true, himself an acute observer. He was an indefatigable collector. He was also critical in the acquisition and interpretation of scientific literature; but his keenest interest, at least in the last twenty-five years of his life, was in the human side of science.

Edward Lothrop Rand was born in Dedham, Massachusetts, August 22, 1859, the son of Edward Sprague and Jennie Augusta (Lathrop) Rand. After preparation at the Hopkinson School in Boston, he entered Harvard College in 1877. His first serious efforts to acquire a knowledge of plants appear to have taken place in the summer of 1880 during the vacation between his junior and senior years. Of this summer he was able to spend a part on Mt. Desert Island in exceptionally stimulating companionship and under conditions well nigh ideal.

He was one of a group of Harvard students who camped on Somes Sound. They were much alive to the joys of woodcraft, of boating, fishing, of mountain-tramping, and were keen to perfect themselves in the technique of sailing and of camping. Mt. Desert forty-five years ago seemed much more remote than it does today. Its summer population was relatively sparse. There were still considerable tracts of land sufficiently wild to stimulate the spirit of adventure and exploration. This group of young men formed themselves into an association which they called the Champlain Society, after Samuel de Champlain, the voyager who discovered and named Mt. Desert.

The organization seems at no time to have beer very large. It included some twenty, perhaps twenty-five members, but owing to the scattered periods of their outings and limited camping equipment it was rare for more than ten or a dozen to be in camp at any one time. It is clear that these young men were there primarily for recreation and were wholesomely successful in getting it, but they seem early to have grasped the idea that the pleasures of a summer outing can be much increased by an intermingling of serious purposes.

They were fresh from their college studies and they determined to accomplish a creditable amount of field work in various natural sciences. These were discussed and volunteers were called for to undertake special interests. Among the subjects selected were ornithology, botany, entomology, geology and meteorology.

Among the members of this Champlain Society were Charles and Samuel A. Eliot, sons of President Eliot of Harvard University, who was himself at that period a summer resident of Northeast Harbor. Other members were Benjamin Bates, Henry W. Bliss, Walter L. Burrage, William H. and G. B. Dunbar, Morris Earle, John McGaw Foster, Robert W. Greenleaf, Henry Champion Jones, William Coolidge Lane, Ernest Lovering, John Prentiss, Edward Lothrop and Henry L. Rand, Henry M. Spelman, Roland Thaxter, John L. and Julius Wakefield, William L. Worcester, and Robert Worthington. As these names have been derived chiefly from the botanical records it is probable that the list is by no means complete.

Few enthusiasms are more keenly pleasurable than those of observant persons who set themselves the task of discovering and recording the flora or fauna of a region new to their acquaintance. Every member of our own Club must at times have experienced this joy as on some summer outing he has attempted to list in a locality new to him all the trees, all the ferns, orchids, mosses or possibly all the flowering plants. To anyone who has enjoyed this particular zest it will be easy to understand the enthusiasm of this group of young men as they entered upon their exploration of the diversified and picturesque island of Mt. Desert.

Happily, they kept, at least regarding their botanical activities, admirable records from the outset. The work of each year from 1880 to 1888 was made the subject of a formidable quarto brochure written out in long hand. These reports form human documents of no small interest.

They show ample evidence of boyish exuberance. They are decorated with sketches of camp or yacht ensigns, and are embellished with poems. The first list of plants covered those observed and identified in 1880. It dealt almost exclusively with the larger-flowered phanerogams and a few of the more readily recognized ferns. Even the trees were not attempted to any great extent, and the grasses and sedges were frankly omitted. The entire number of species was but 170. The nomenclature is that of the then current

fifth edition of Gray's Manual. Authorities were not thought needful and many of the names are those which have long passed into the limbo of synonymy, though some of them, such as *Thalictrum Cornuti*, *Anemone nemorosa* and *Nabalus alba* will still linger in the recollections of the older members of our Club.

This first list appears to have been drawn up by Mr. W. H. Dunbar, though much of the report was contributed by Mr. Rand and it was he who prepared the chief matter of all the succeeding botanical reports. The second already shows marked improvement, though still diffident and amateurish. The number of plants was increased to 372. There was greater care. Authorities are appended to all the scientific names. Ten grasses and six sedges are included, and a special list of trees and shrubs is added, together with a very solemn essay on the value of forests and the importance of their conservation.

The Champlain Society sometimes held meetings in the winter. These were under the leadership of Charles Eliot and chiefly at his rooms. It was doubtless on these occasions that the reports were read. At these meetings attention was also given to the history and traditions of Mt. Desert, a subject in which Mr. Charles Eliot was particularly interested.

About this time Mr. Rand spent parts of three or four summers at a fishing camp on Lake Molechunkamunk with his classmates John W. Suter and Ernest Lovering. These trips to the Rangeley Lake region probably continued from 1878 to 1881. The camp was situated just below Upper Dam and from this centre the young men made many excursions in different directions. From Mr. Rand's notes it seems clear that the chief botanical work undertaken by them in this region was accomplished in September 1880, in which Mt. Aziscoos was climbed and some 160 species were listed, of which, on account of lateness in the season, many had to be identified from fruiting specimens.

Some spring trips to Mt. Desert were made by Messrs. Rand and Lane to ascertain and collect the early-flowered plants.

In the third botanical report, covering work done in 1882, the so-called "grand total" was brought up to 440. From this time on it is clear that progress was becoming more difficult. The plants of easy access and ready identification had been largely listed. Additions had to be sought among rarer species and in groups of greater technicality.

In the fourth report the number of species was advanced to 492, including 53 grasses, sedges and rushes listed by Robert Greenleaf and a small beginning in the record of the mosses by Walter L. Burrage.

This may be regarded as the culminating achievement of the Champlain Society. No such group of young men, however congenial, could hold together during the strenuous period when they were just entering their professions or getting a start in serious business activities. It was no longer possible for them to arrange coincident vacations. Fewer and fewer could get to the camp even for a short outing, and those who did had lost something of their earlier enthusiasm.

We find the report for 1884 a bit mournful and such frank expressions as the following creep in: "as far as scientific work was concerned the expedition was an absolute failure. Nobody did any work except Messrs. Wakefield, Burrage and Rand of the Botanical Department, and their work was not very successful." One member proclaimed that he "would do no work during his vacation" and is stated to have remained "most faithful to his resolution."

Nevertheless, the reports were continued up to 1888 though they drop considerably in volume and the additions to that closely watched "grand total" become fewer and fewer.

However, as his associates in the Champlain Society gradually dispersed, Mr. Rand had the great good fortune to meet with a most admirable collaborator in Mr. John Howard Redfield of Philadelphia, an accomplished botanist, also a summer resident of Mt. Desert, who had himself been observing, collecting and recording its plants. Mr. Redfield, already elderly, generously placed his data at the service of the younger man and was able to give him much encouragement and aid. He was a man of scientific experience and a personal friend of Dr. Asa Gray. He had wide acquaintance among botanical specialists and it was probably through his influence that the later reports entered a new phase in the work, namely that of verification. This was accomplished by the reference of material to specialists. The sedges and Rubi were sent to Prof. L. H. Bailey. The name of Prof. F. Lamson Scribner appears in connection with the grass identifications. Prof. T. C. Porter helped about the asters and golden-rods. Mr. M. S. Bebb was deferred to about the willows, and Mr. G. E. Davenport regarding the ferns. Dr. T. F. Allen named the Characeae and Dr. Morong verified the pondweeds. Dr. N. L.

Britton was consulted and gave aid, Mr. F. S. Collins identified some marine algae. The hepatics were named by Prof. L. M. Underwood, some of the mosses by Prof. C. R. Barnes and others by Mrs. Britton; while the Sphagna were sent to Mr. Edwin Faxon and by him referred to Dr. Carl Warnstorf. Dr. J. W. Eckfeldt and Miss Clara E. Cummings furnished information about the lichens, and Mr. Walter Deane was consulted and his aid is stated to have been invaluable.

The collections of previous years were re-examined and disclosed unsuspected species of a technical nature. In 1888 the whole work was summarized and recorded in a manifolded catalogue which was given a certain publication by its distribution to the collaborators and to several botanical establishments and libraries. The purpose of this preliminary publication was to give a convenient checking list for further work. In the years 1889 to 1891 four supplements to this list were similarly manifolded and distributed.

In 1894, after repeated revisions, much emendation, and most conscientious proof-reading, Rand and Redfield's Flora of Mt. Desert appeared. For its epoch it was an exceptionally excellent local flora, the result of fourteen years of earnest endeavor and well-knit co-operation. It may be placed in the same class as Dame and Collins's Flora of Middlesex County and the scholarly Cayuga Flora of W. R. Dudley. Exceedingly few American floras have attempted the treatment of the thallophytes and bryophytes in conjunction with the vascular plants, and this has been rare for insular floras of any part of the world.

It has seemed worth while to trace the evolution of this work from its inception in the youthful activities of the Champlain Society to its publication as a finished piece of scientific record. In several respects the story is illuminating. It shows an extraordinary continuity of purpose. It gives a striking illustration of carefully matured and highly creditable work accomplished by an amateur in scattered intervals of limited leisure. It wonderfully explains the training which Mr. Rand brought to his later work as secretary of our Club, for it makes clear how he had personally acquired experience in collecting, in floristic record, in correlating the results of co-operative work, and finally how in the preparation of his Flora he had acquired extended acquaintance with contemporary specialists and had learned how to value their aid. It had also given him practice in seeing

technical matter carefully through press. Indeed, is it possible to think of a more favorable preparation for the duties which he was in 1895 called upon to assume?

By those, like ourselves, who saw Mr. Rand in his botanical activities, it must be remembered that these constituted merely an avocation, that he was primarily engaged in other duties, that he had an exacting profession. After taking his A.B. in Harvard College in 1881, with a scholarly rank which brought him Phi Beta Kappa honours, he continued his studies in the Harvard Law School and received his LL.B. in 1884 as well as his A.M. from Harvard College. Admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1885, he entered the practice of the law. For many years he had his office in the Exchange Building—at first on the seventh, later on the tenth floor—in the very heart of Boston's financial district.

In his profession he was highly regarded and is believed to have had talents which would have carried him far had he not preferred a very quiet type of independent practice to association in any of the prominent partnerships, which would have entailed greater stress, with presumably less choice in the direction of his activities and probably less leisure for his avocations.

He was diligent in his work and became specially known as a skillful conveyancer, whose examination of titles commanded high respect and was felt to be of exemplary thoroughness. In this capacity he was one of the lawyers retained in the important legislative case of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology regarding the restrictions of its Boston real estate holdings. He also had considerable practice in wills and probate law and is believed to have been very generous of his time in the legal assistance of many worthy but indigent clients. Rarely, if ever, did he accept court practice. He seemed to be happy in his work and it was often continued far into the night.

His opportunities for botany were restricted to Sundays, holidays, occasional evenings, and his summer outings. These last were with great fidelity spent on Mt. Desert, in his later years at Seal Harbor. There he became one of the best known and most beloved members of the summer colony and took an effective part in the activities of the Village Improvement Society, serving repeatedly upon its committees. He devoted much care to the preparation of what is by all odds the best map of the Island, a time-consuming enterprise of no small magnitude. Fond of boating, he cared little for sailing, but

was a capital tramper, extraordinarily observant, always interesting and interested.

He was one of the most earnest and enthusiastic of the small group of gentlemen of Boston and its suburbs who in the autumn of 1895 met from time to time informally to consider the founding of a botanical club which should include both professionals and amateurs. When in December of the same year, as the outcome of these efforts, the New England Botanical Club was formed, it was he who was chosen its Corresponding Secretary.

Thereafter, for many years, he never missed a meeting either of the Club or of its Council. He personally knew every member—knew them in fact better than they realized. He was so quiet that only his intimate friends perceived how close was his observation of people as well as things. However, his judgment of their characters was kindly rather than critical. He was gifted with a fine sense of humor and though a very silent guest was apt in the course of general conversation to make from time to time whimsical observations which were the more amusing because unexpected.

During the early years of the Club, Mr. Rand was always ready to join in its field-work, if this could be arranged on holidays or at week-ends. In this way he collected at many points within thirty or forty miles of Boston. Longer excursions were not frequent in those motorless days. However, he made several short visits to the Monadnock region, with a large vasculum as an important part of his baggage. There he collected diligently in Jaffrey, West Rindge, Fitzwilliam, Troy, Dublin and Peterboro. He carefully explored the upper parts of the Contookook River and is one of the few botanists who have ascended the broken slopes of Little Monadnock and the ledges on the south side of Gap Mountain. That his holiday gatherings in this region have proved scientifically useful is shown by the fact that some of them have from time to time been cited in RHODORA.

When in the autumn of 1898 our journal was in contemplation he was one of the earliest to regard the plan as feasible and one of the most active in soliciting the several hundred advance subscriptions needful to make it practicable. When the RHODORA Board was chosen he kindly consented to be a member of the publication committee, and thus added further correspondence to that entailed by his duties as secretary. He was very regular in his attendance at the meetings

of the editorial board and gave aid on the literary as well as the business side of the undertaking.

It sometimes happens that the functions of an official become inconspicuous from the very smoothness and efficiency with which they are performed. It was so with Mr. Rand. It is in retrospect that his services can best be appreciated. Twenty-five years is a long term in which to conduct the correspondence of a live organization, to prepare and send out its many notices, to take effective part in nearly all its deliberations, and to aid in the management of its publication. All this Mr. Rand did and did well.

There is another point to be remembered. Such associations as our own can prosper only when a fitting balance is maintained between scientific work and social interest, between research, exploration and scientific record on the one hand and popularization on the other. In preserving this balance, Mr. Rand's uniform tact, vigilant care and sound judgment have been factors of no small importance in the success of our Club.

He scarcely ever addressed the Club except briefly and on business matters.

Aside from his admirable Flora of Mt. Desert his botanical publications were few and of no great extent. In the *Mt. Desert Herald* he published in the summer of 1890 a series of eight articles of a popular nature on the vegetation of the island. To *Garden and Forest* he contributed three brief notes. In RHODORA he published ten short articles, mostly relating to stations for some of the rarer phanerogams in the outlying towns of the Boston District, but including a florula of the Duck Islands on the Maine coast and a list of addenda to his Flora of Mt. Desert.

He long cherished the hope of bringing out a revised and supplemented edition of his Flora and to that end he continued year after year his exploration of Mt. Desert and prepared many specimens. However, he was at length forced to abandon this enterprise, for he became conscious that there were limits beyond which it would be unwise to tax his eyesight, always under considerable strain in the course of his professional work, which involved the close scrutiny of old deeds and obscure probate records.

Mr. Rand gave his herbarium to the New England Botanical Club in 1914. There are portions of it still to be worked over and it is not yet possible to state the extent of the collection. Mr. Rand

himself estimated as far back as 1901 that it contained at least 15,000 sheets, but he subsequently made many additions. It is one of the most important gifts ever received by the Club and as a close record of a local flora covering the lower groups as well as the vascular plants, it is unsurpassed among the many valuable collections of which our Club herbarium has become the repository.

Mr. Rand had a very refined literary taste, was a copious and thoughtful reader and built up a library rich in the best fiction and history as well as in works bearing upon his favorite science.

He wrote letters without number and always in manuscript. He was never reconciled to what Henry James has termed the "inhuman legibility of the typewriter." His business notes had all needful definiteness combined with more human touches. His social correspondence had distinct charm. His messages of sympathy or congratulation were wonderfully expressive of warm feelings delicately worded.

On June 29, 1893, he married Miss Annie Matilda Crozier of Charlestown, a lady of great personal charm. While not herself botanically inclined she was sympathetic with his interest in plants and was a very delightful hostess to his many botanical guests.

Besides the New England Botanical Club there were several organizations to which Mr. Rand was faithfully devoted, namely a local Episcopalian Club, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and his dining club, the last—still in existence—being a noteworthy group of men with scholarly interests in the natural sciences.

On May 12, 1921, Mrs. Rand died—a blow from which her husband never recovered. In the autumn of the same year he was stricken down by paralysis. Thereafter, for three years, he led the life of an invalid, but so far recovered his powers that he could sit up, walk about the house, take short strolls in the garden, and even in the care of a nurse make longer journeys to the homes of friends. He was glad to see his friends and to the last retained his interest in the affairs and the members of the New England Botanical Club. At the end, which came October 9, 1924, his passing was mercifully sudden and he was spared conscious suffering.

Among the personal traits of his character which stand out most clearly in our memories of him were gentleness, patience, uniform courtesy, a refined literary interest, a whimsical humor, a cleverness in versification often exhibited at our Club dinners and celebrations.

It will be noted that these are qualities very rarely combined, as they were in his case, with exceptional powers of observation, a trained business judgment and firmness of decision, for his opinions had a fine definiteness and were in matters of importance tenaciously held.

Unflagging loyalty to an avocation, of a scientific and somewhat technical nature, taken up in youth and continued throughout life, is in itself a remarkable achievement. That his botanical activities gave great pleasure to our late friend there can be no doubt. They enriched his life and brought him into a host of human relations which he keenly enjoyed. In return for these pleasures, his services were liberally given and they were of an extent and nature to win for him the enduring gratitude of our Club and insure him an honorable place in the history of botany.

THE WHITE PINE IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

H. K. Svenson.

In August, 1922, Mr. W. C. Dickinson of Peabody College, Nashville, and the writer collected plants in the hills west of Nashville, and found on the summit of the high bluffs just south of the village of Craggie Hope, in Cheatham County, about a dozen full-grown specimens of *Pinus Strobus*. This station obviously extends the known distribution of the white pine some distance to the southwest. According to Sargent[1] the distribution of this tree is "Newfoundland to Manitoba, southward through the northern states to Pennsylvania, northern and eastern Ohio, northern Indiana, valley of the Rocky River near Oregon, Ogle County, Illinois, and central and southeastern Iowa, and along the Appalachian Mountains to Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee and northern Georgia." Gattinger[2] in his Flora of Tennessee reports it "from the Cumberland Mountains, and prominently [in] the Alleghenies along the slopes of the highest ridges." In the introduction, pp. 23–24, he makes the following observations: "There are neither pines nor firs the whole length of distance from Pulaski to Elizabethtown, near Louisville, Ky., nor are any to be found for a great distance east or west of this line (Nashville & Decatur Railroad). The scrub pine [*P. virginiana*] is the

[1] Sargent, C. S. Man. Trees N. A. ed. 2: 3–4. (1921.)
[2] Gattinger, A. Fl. Tenn. 31. (1901.)